

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Dockets
222

23 JAN 1992

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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JAN 24 1992

Honorable Herbert Kohl
United States Senate
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-4903

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Senator Kohl:

Your letter to the Director of Legislative Affairs concerning reallocation of microwave frequencies has been referred to me for reply. Your constituent, Philip Arreola, Chief of Police of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, expressed concern to you regarding proposals to reallocate frequencies at 2 GHz that potentially might impact the public safety services currently using those frequencies.

On January 16, 1992, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in ET Docket No. 92-9 that proposes allocating 220 MHz of 2 GHz spectrum for use by providers of emerging technologies. With regard to the public safety agencies currently using portions of this spectrum, the Commission proposed to permit state and local government licensees, including public safety agencies, to continue indefinitely their current operations on a primary basis. Expansion and new microwave systems would be permitted only on a secondary basis in this band. Expansion and new systems on a primary basis would be permitted at higher frequencies. In conjunction with the Notice, the Commission will release a staff study of existing use of this microwave spectrum and identify other suitable frequencies available for this purpose. To further facilitate accommodation of the competing demands for this spectrum, the Commission also proposed to permit negotiation of financial arrangements between existing licensees and parties proposing new services that would facilitate access to this spectrum for services employing emerging technologies.

These provisions are intended to prevent disruption to the public safety and other state and local governmental communications, yet still provide the spectrum needed by U.S. companies to develop new and innovative telecommunications products and services and bolster U.S. competitiveness in world telecommunications markets. An example of one such new proposed service is the personal communications service (PCS), which the Commission is addressing concurrently in GEN Docket No. 90-314.

Honorable Herbert Kohl

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The need of the public safety community for reliable communication is of importance to the Commission, and is being taken carefully into consideration. Your constituent's concerns will be taken into account before a final determination is made, and for that purpose, I am making his letter part of the record in the two dockets discussed above, ET Docket No. 92-9 and GEN Docket No. 90-314.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas P. Stanley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

HERBERT KOHL
WISCONSIN

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE
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POW/MIA AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4903

January 6, 1992

Federal Communications Commission
Director, Legislative Affairs
Room 808
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1992
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OCPA

Dear Director:

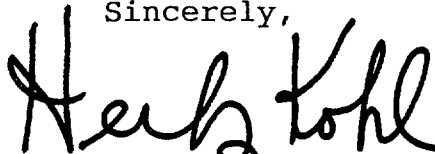
Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from the Chief of Police in the city of Milwaukee regarding concerns over reallocation of microwave frequencies away from public safety uses.

I would request that the FCC carefully consider the contents of this letter before making any decisions regarding this proposed spectrum reallocation. Chief Philip Arreola makes a number of good points about the proposal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

My best wishes,

Sincerely,


Herb Kohl, U.S.S.

HK:tm
Enc.

OET
90-314
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205 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202
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(715) 832-8424

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KENOSHA, WI 53140
(414) 667-7719

APPLETON OFFICE:
4321 WEST COLLEGE AVENUE #235
APPLETON, WI 54914
(414) 738-1640



Department of Police
December 23, 1991

Philip Arreola
Chief of Police

Senator Herbert H. Kohl
United States Senate
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kohl:

I am writing to you again concerning a matter of vital importance to the Milwaukee Police Department. As previously, I again request your assistance in communicating our deep concerns to officials of the Federal Communications Commission. At a time when the resources of local governments are being seriously stressed, the proposals of the Federal Communications Commission are ill advised.

Specifically, the Federal Communications Commission is conducting feasibility studies, which if ultimately adopted into RULE MAKING, will reallocate existing Public Safety microwave (radio) communications frequencies to create a proposed new "Personal Communications Service". Apparently this F.C.C. action was initiated by the cellular telephone industries and common carrier telephone interests seeking new markets for personal, hand-held, cordless telephones. These new (radio operated) personal telephones may require additional radio spectrum, and the industry has (regrettably) targeted established microwave radio frequencies presently allocated in F.C.C. Rules for Public Safety microwave communications.

The feasibility study of the Federal Communications Commission commenced on June 28, 1990, under F.C.C. General Docket No. 90-314.

We object to proposals which would reallocate spectrum currently in operation within Public Safety agencies. Existing radio frequencies available for law enforcement are already inadequate, particularly in the large metropolitan cities where community demands for public safety services are ever increasing. Clearly, the Milwaukee Police Department would experience degradation of its emergency communications systems and suffer a substantial financial cost to replace existing equipment.

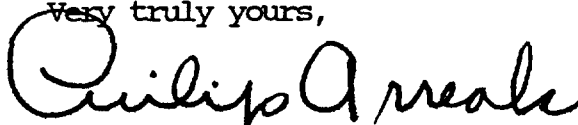
We take no issue with efforts by the telephone industry to expand their sales and market horizons by introducing new, high-tech, personal telephones. Indications are, however, that alternative technologies are emerging which will make more efficient use of existing radio spectrum allocated to mobile telephone systems, without dispossessing public safety radio communications frequencies. It appears that telephone industry interests have chosen the least costly strategy by attempting to displace existing radio spectrum users.

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Federal Communications Commission
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This approach may be cost effective and expedient for the telephone industry, but will cause undue hardships for public safety communications systems. Accordingly, the Milwaukee Police Department opposes this unacceptable course of action.

I trust you will carefully consider our concerns and make contact with appropriate officials of the Federal Communications Commission. I have appreciated your cooperation and assure you of ours in all matters of mutual concern.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip Arreola". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

PHILIP ARREOLA
CHIEF OF POLICE

PA/FJS/jb